

Submit a Proclamation

Awareness and healthy pregnancies

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IF YOUR PRIORITIES ALIGN MORE WITH
GENERAL AWARENESS AND HEALTHY
PREGNANCIES

Human service organizations, health care professionals, educators, and the public are called to action to work together to better understand and support individuals with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD). This can be done by improving public health efforts to increase awareness on how FASDs may present in individuals across the lifespan and the ongoing need for services and support for individuals living with FASD while also spreading the message that there is no safe time during pregnancy to consume alcohol.

Whereas, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) affect as many as 1 in 20 school-aged children in the US and are complex lifelong disorders that affect each person differently, resulting in unique strengths and challenges; and

Whereas, FASD is an umbrella term describing the range of disabilities that can occur in an individual who was exposed to alcohol before birth; and

Whereas, FASD can cause challenges with verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction, growth, cognition, and adaptive function, and can affect anyone, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background; and

Whereas, FASD is often accompanied by medical conditions that impact quality of life; and

Whereas, A comprehensive, collaborative approach will help to advance research, providing a better understanding of the many forms of FASD, while strengthening advocacy efforts and ensuring access to services and resources throughout their life; and

Whereas, Although FASD can be prevented by supporting pregnancies free of alcohol, prevention efforts should be balanced with support and intervention for people with an FASD, with education and early intervention acting as preventative measures against secondary disabilities; and

Whereas, Early diagnosis and intervention tailored to individual needs can have lifelong benefits, easing the transition to adulthood and fostering greater independence; and

Whereas, Each person and family should have access to reliable information, supports, and opportunities to live up to their greatest potential.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **(Governor's name)**, Governor of the state of **(name of your state)**, do hereby declare **[September 9, 2025, as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day [or September as FASD Awareness Month]]** and pledge to continue to partner with organizations, health care professionals, educators, and the public to raise awareness about FASD and support individuals living with this disability.